This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.   (cancelled)

2.   (currently amended) The method of claim [1]13, wherein the data from a source comprising a database of control codes and is provided via a data network comprising the Internet.

3.   (currently amended) The method of claim 2, comprising:

[-] enabling a user to specify to a server on the network an apparatus for being controlled by the control device; and

[-] enabling the server to identify a corresponding control code for being provided as the data in the mark-up language format.

4.   (currently amended) The method of claim [1]13, wherein the control code is comprises part of an EPG or ECG.

5.   (currently amended) The method of claim [1]13, comprising supplying a control code comprising a GUI element for use on the control device, the GUI element being supplied as further data in the mark-up language format.

6.   (original) The method of claim 5, wherein the GUI element comprises a graphical representation of a remote control device.

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7.   (cancelled)

8.   (previously presented) The device of claim [7]14, having a display monitor and being

suitable for receipt of a GUI element in the mark-up language format.

9.   (cancelled)

10.   (cancelled)

11.   (cancelled)

12.   (cancelled)

13.   (new) A method, comprising:

over a bidirectional data network providing, a control code to a home network comprising

a control-device, the control code comprising data in a mark-up language format,

the control code being representative of an IR or RF command for controlling the

state of an apparatus:

the control code not being usable by an apparatus until the control code is converted into

the command and transmitted to the apparatus by an IR or RF signal that is

independent of the bidirectional data network over which the control code was

provided, wherein the apparatus is not pre-configured to deliver or cause delivery

of its respective control code to the control device;

enabling the home network to convert the control code into the IR or RF command; and

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enabling the control device to send the command to the apparatus. . . .

14.   (new) A remote control device, comprising:

the device being configured for receiving a control code from a source over a

bidirectional data network, the control code comprising data in a mark-up

language format, the control code being representative of a command for an

apparatus;

the remote control device being configured to convert the control code from a form that

is not usable on the apparatus to be controlled into an IR or RF command that is

usable by the apparatus to change a state of the apparatus; and

a transmitter providing the IR or RF signal independent of the bidirectional data

network command for the control code, wherein the apparatus is not pre-

configured to deliver or cause delivery of its respective control code to the

control device.

15.   (new) A data base, comprising:

control codes for controlling apparatuses through remote control devices, the control

codes representing IR or RF commands for transmission by the remote control

devices to the apparatuses and being formatted in a mark-up language, the

database being in communication over a bidirectional data network with a

plurality home network systems each of which comprises at least a remote

control device, the control codes being deliverable to the remote control devices

independent of the controlled apparatuses.

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16.   (new) A control code stored on a machine readable medium for control of CE equipment and for being supplied in an XML format, the control code representing an IR or RF signal for transmission by a remote control device to the CE equipment.

17.   (new) A method comprising:

over a bidirectional data network, enabling a plurality of users to specify to a server for each user an apparatus for being controlled by the control device of a user; and

enabling the server to identify a control code comprising data in a mark-up language format, the control code being representative of a control code for an apparatus; and

enabling the server to communicate over the bidirectional data network with a home network that comprises a user's control device for delivery of the control code to the control device, wherein the control code is not directly usable by the specified apparatus until conversion by the home network into a command that can be sent by the control device independent of the bidirectional network.

18.   (new) A method, comprising:

providing control codes in a mark-up language format to a home network comprising a control device for installation on the control device, a first set of control codes being part of an EPG or ECG, and a second set of control codes representing IR or RF signals for transmission by a remote control device to the CE equipment to control the state of the equipment, the control codes being provided from a database over a bidirectional data network to the home network.

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In all embodiments, including in the embodiment where the network transmitter/receiver 505 downloads the control codes to the remote, Yang teaches a bidirectional data link with the appliance. (See bidirectional link 150 in Fig. 5.) Accordingly, among other things, Yang fails to recite the claim limitations of (1) a control code in a mark-up language that is converted to an IR or RF signal and (2) the deliverability of the converted code to an apparatus independent of a bidirectional network from which the control code is obtained.

The rejection based on Yang and Humpleman is therefore traversed because these and other limitations, as arranged and recited in the claims, are not found in the combination of the references.

, Further, the rejection is traversed because there is no teaching, suggestion, or motivation found in the references for their combination assuming arguendo that all limitations were present. As to Humpleman, the passage in Humpleman cited by the Examiner, Col. 9, lns 53 to Col. 10, ln 15 does not concern the use of a control code or mark-up language to control the state of the apparatus via, for example, an IR or RF signal. Rather, that section is describing the control of streaming media based on device attribute data used to determine device interoperability. It is unclear how the Examiner can consider attribute data to correspond to a control code in mark-up language because the attribute data seems merely to allow the compatibility determinations and is not used to represent a signal that initiates any change in device state.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 13-18 are patentably distinct over the references of record and are in condition for allowance. Claims 2-6, 8, depend directly or indirectly from these claims and therefore are allowable for at least the some reasons.

In view of the foregoing reasons for distinguishing over the cited references, Applicant has not raised other possible grounds for traversing the rejections, and therefore nothing herein

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